



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Committee Bill No. 685

LCO No. 4225

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING RESTORATION OF MEDICAL SERVICES
PREVIOUSLY AVAILABLE UNDER THE MEDICAID AND STATE
ADMINISTERED GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) section 17b-257 of the general statutes, as
2 amended by section 18 of public act 03-2, is repealed and the following
3 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall implement a state
5 medical assistance program for persons ineligible for Medicaid and on
6 or before April 1, 1997, the commissioner shall implement said
7 program in the towns in which the fourteen regional or district offices
8 of the Department of Social Services are located. The commissioner
9 shall establish a schedule for the transfer of recipients of medical
10 assistance administered by towns under the general assistance
11 program to the state program. To the extent possible, the
12 administration of the state medical assistance program shall parallel
13 that of the Medicaid program as it is administered to recipients of
14 temporary family assistance, including eligibility criteria concerning
15 income and assets. Payment for medical services shall be made only

16 for individuals determined eligible. The rates of payment for medical
17 services shall be those of the Medicaid program. Medical services
18 covered under the program shall be those covered under the Medicaid
19 program, except that nonemergency medical transportation [, eye care,
20 optical hardware and optometry care, podiatry, chiropractic,
21 natureopathy, home health care] and long-term care and services
22 available pursuant to a home and community-based services waiver
23 under Section 1915 of the Social Security Act shall not be covered. On
24 or after April 1, 1997, the commissioner shall implement a managed
25 care program for medical services provided under this program,
26 except services provided pursuant to section 17a-453a.
27 Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 4a-51 and 4a-57, the
28 commissioner may enter into contracts, including, but not limited to,
29 purchase of service agreements to implement the provisions of this
30 section.

31 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 17b-259 of the general statutes is
32 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
33 *passage*):

34 (b) The medical services for which a town shall be liable under this
35 section and for which a town shall be reimbursed by the state shall be
36 limited to the following medically necessary services provided such
37 services are covered under the Medicaid program: (1) Physician
38 services, (2) hospital services, on an inpatient basis subject to the
39 provisions of section 17b-220 and outpatient care, (3) community clinic
40 services, (4) prescription drugs, excluding over-the-counter drugs, (5)
41 hearing aids, (6) laboratory and x-ray services, (7) emergency dental
42 services, (8) emergency medical transportation, [and] (9) glasses, and
43 (10) examinations (A) needed to determine unemployability, or (B)
44 requested by an attorney to establish the eligibility of a person
45 receiving general assistance benefits for federal supplementary
46 security income benefits pursuant to section 17b-119. Services not
47 covered under this program include, but are not limited to,
48 nonemergency medical transportation. [, eye care, optical hardware

49 and optometry care, podiatry, chiropractic, natureopathy and home
 50 health care.] In lieu of providing medical services, in accordance with
 51 this section, a town or group of towns may submit a plan to the
 52 Department of Social Services for approval to provide medical services
 53 in some other manner. The department shall approve the plan only if
 54 the persons served under it receive at least the services listed in this
 55 subsection and the plan offers the possibility of improved medical care
 56 or cost savings. The department shall encourage a town or group of
 57 towns to contract for the management of such medically necessary
 58 services.

59 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than ninety days after
 60 the effective date of this section, the Commissioner of Social Services
 61 shall submit an amendment to the Medicaid state plan to restore
 62 coverage for optional services eliminated pursuant to section 17b-28e
 63 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to 2003.

64 Sec. 4. (*Effective from passage*) Section 17b-28e of the general statutes
 65 is repealed.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To restore the availability of certain medical services under the Medicaid and State Administered General Assistance programs which were eliminated by public act 02-7 of the May 9 special session.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. HANDLEY, 4th Dist.

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